LBJ Boosts Korea

ONE NATION that President Johnson is determined to help keep on its feet is tiny South Korea, whose soldiers fought and died alongside our own to stop Communist aggression a decade ago.

South Korea has now sent more than 2000 troops to help Americans defend freedom in South Viet-Nam.

This is the reason President Johnson overruled objections from the State Department to keep a date at the White House with South Korea's tough little President Park.

Since LBJ had claimed he was "too busy" to see India's Prime Minister Shastri and Pakistan's President Ayub Khan, the State Department argued that he must also cancel Park's visit.

But the President made it clear he wasn't too busy to see a friend like Park.

Though Park has been pictured in this country as a military dictator, the truth is that he was elected by the people of South Korea in a dramatically close election in October, 1963.

An overwhelming 91 per cent of the 12,985,015 eligible voters turned out at the polls. Park lost the city vote in Seoul by a three-to-one margin. But the peasants came through in the country-side to give him a narrow, 156,126-vote victory.

© 1965, Bell-McClure Syndicate.